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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tatsumi FUJIOKA

Group Art Unit: 2834

Application No.: 10/733,456

Examiner: E. PRESTON

Filed: December 12, 2003

Docket No.: 118076

For: PRESS-FITTING METHOD AND RECTIFYING DEVICE HAVING PRESS-FITTED MEMBER

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 7, 2006 Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-12, 15 and 16. The election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all pending claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

In addition, the Examiner is requested to consider the information submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on April 16, 2004 and September 15, 2004. The Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if, for some reason, copies of those Information Disclosure Statements are not present in the Patent Office file.

Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MAC/ldg

Date: June 23, 2006

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